



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MAYOR JERRY SANDERS FACT SHEET

### **MAYOR SANDERS ANNOUNCES CRIME DOWN FOR FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 2008**

#### *POLICE RESPONSE TIMES TO CALLS ALSO SHOW IMPROVEMENT*

Mayor Jerry Sanders today released crime statistics for the city of San Diego in the first three quarters of 2008, showing that crime is down 7.6 percent citywide over the same period in 2007.

The crime rate is calculated per 1,000 residents. In total, there were 34.9 crimes per 1,000 residents in the first three quarters of 2008, versus 37.95 during the first nine months of 2007.

The overall crime rate is based on totals for “index crimes,” including violent crimes such as murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault, and property crimes such as burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft.

For the first nine months of 2008, violent crimes saw an overall decrease of 3.5 percent compared with the same period last year. There were a total of 4,556 violent crimes reported in San Diego from January through September, compared with 4,722 for the same period last year.

Robberies and aggravated assaults were down this year; however, the number of homicides and rapes has increased. There were 45 murders over the first three quarters this year, compared with 41 during the same nine months last year – a 9.8 percent increase. The number of rapes increased 34.3 percent, from 207 for the first nine months last year to 278 in 2008.

Property crimes were down across all categories for the first three quarters this year, with an overall drop of 8.2 percent from the same period last year. There were a total of

30,605 property crimes from January through September this year, compared with 33,338 in the same period last year.

Mayor Sanders also announced that response times by the San Diego Police has improved for all priority levels during the first three quarters of the year compared with the 2007 period. Response to the highest-priority calls improved by nearly 5 percent — from 7.08 minutes to 6.73 minutes. Response times across all priority levels improved by an average of 4.2 percent, despite higher dispatches in the top four priority categories.

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